

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested. Claims 19 and 20 have been amended. No claims have been canceled or added. No new matter has been added.

Affirmation of Election

Applicant hereby affirms the election of Group I (claims 12-20).

Claim Objections

Claims 19 and 20 stand objected to because of informalities. Accordingly, claims 19 and 20 have been amended. Thus, the objections have been overcome.

Claim Rejections

Independent claims 12 and 13 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) based on Dugan et al. (U.S. Patent no. 6363411). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections.

Claim 12 recites:

12. A machine-readable medium having sequences of instructions stored therein which, when executed by a processor cause the processor to perform a process comprising:
automatically configuring a network cache so that the network cache is able to communicate with a database to authenticate a user; and
operating the network cache.
(Emphasis added).

The above claim recites automatically configuring a network cache so that the network cache is able to communicate with a database to authenticate a user. In contrast, Dugan does not teach or suggest the above emphasized claim limitation.

Dugan discloses a centralized administration system for storing one or more reusable business objects that each encapsulates a distinct call-processing function, and any associated data required by the business object. The centralized administration system also distributes selected business objects and associated data to selected nodes in a switching network based on pre-determined node configuration (see Dugan's Abstract).

The Examiner cited Dugan's column 60 lines 9-11, column 52 lines 17-21, column 47 lines 56-59, column 48 lines 24-27, column 1 lines 31-32, and column 67 line 38/lines 55-57, alleging that Dugan teaches the above emphasized limitation (see Office Action mailed on 1/11/2006, page 4). However, the cited sections contain no disclosure or even a hint regarding automatically configuring a network cache so that the network cache is able to communicate with a database to authenticate a user. Specifically, Dugan's column 60 lines 9-11 disclose a local cache in the Local Resource Manager (LRM) of Service Layer Execution Environment (SLEE), not a network cache. Column 52 lines 17-21 discuss a local cache storing object references corresponding to objects. Column 47 lines 56-59 discuss a Cache Manager, which maintains the state of a local cache, and communicates with a Data Management (DM) server to retrieve data. Column 48 lines 24-27 discuss the concept of providing a cache for different applications. Although column 1 lines 31-32 and column 67 line 38/lines 55-57 mention the concept of user authentication, they do not teach or suggest the above emphasized claim limitation as a whole. None of the above cited sections teach or suggest a network cache, neither do they teach or suggest automatically configuring a network cache. Even assuming *arguendo* that the above sections teach a network cache and

user authentication, they certainly do not teach or suggest the combination of these elements as a whole as recited in claim 12.

Therefore, at least for the foregoing reasons, claim 12 is patentable over Dugan. All claims which depend on claim 12 are also patentable over Dugan.

Similarly, claim 13 also recites a similar limitation as discussed above for claim 12. In addition, claim 13 also recites "a user interface to allow an operator to enter a character string known by the operator to be within a user object located in a database" The Examiner alleges that Dugan's column 18 lines 28-45 and column 59 lines 53-60 disclose the above quoted claim limitation (*see* Office Action mailed on 1/11/2006, page 4). However, the cited sections contain no disclosure or even a hint regarding user object and a character string known to be within the user object. Specifically, column 18 lines 28-45 discuss using user name to identify a component. Column 59 lines 53-60 discuss object reference and object identifier identifying the physical location of an object instance. None of the above cited sections discusses a user object, neither does any of them discuss a character string known by an operator to be within the user object. Even assuming *arguendo* that the above cited sections do teach or suggest a user object and a character string known to be within the user object, they do not teach or suggest that the character string is used to automatically configure a network cache, a limitation also recited in claim 13.

Thus, at least for the above reasons, claim 13 and all claims depend on it are patentable over Dugan.

Dependent Claims

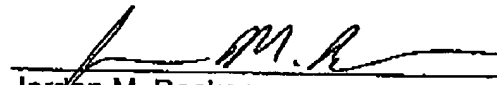
In view of the above remarks, a specific discussion of the dependent claims is considered to be unnecessary. Therefore, Applicants' silence regarding any dependent claim is not to be interpreted as agreement with, or acquiescence to, the rejection of such claim or as waiving any argument regarding that claim.

For the foregoing reasons, the present application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly requested.

If any additional fee is required, please charge Deposit Account No. 02-2666.

Respectfully submitted,
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